Docket No. GRA01236P00021US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Applicant: | Antonelli et al. |) | |
|-------------|--------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Serial Nö.: | 10/814,462 |) | Group Art Unit: N/A |
| Sellai INU | 10/014,402 |) | Group Art Ollit: N/A |
| Filed: | March 31, 2004 |) | |
| | |) | |
| For: | Attachment Mechanism for |) | Examiner: N/A |
| | Middle Ear Prosthesis |) | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached Form PTO/SB/08A lists references which may be considered to be material to the above-identified application by the Patent Examiner. Entry into the record is respectfully requested.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not being submitted within three months of the filing date of the national application, but it is being filed before receipt of a First Office Action. Therefore, we believe no fee is due. If any additional fee might be required in connection with this matter, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23-0785.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage at First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 22, 2004.

Corinne Byk





Respectfully submitted

Date: July 22, 2004

312/876-1800

F. William McKaughlin

Reg. No. 32,273

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER Citicorp Center, Suite 3800 500 West Madison Street Chicago, Illinois 60661-2511

Comparable to Form PTO/SB/08A (08-03 Approved for use through 0731/2006 OMB 0651-0031 Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no quired to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. **Application Number** 10/814,462 Substitute for form 1449A/PTO Filing Date March 31, 2004 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor Patrick Antonelli STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Group Art Unit N/A (Use as many sheets as necessary) Confirmation No. N/A **Examiner Name** N/A Sheet 1 of 1 Attorney Docket No. GRA01236P00022US

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------|--|--------------------|------------------------------|---|------|-------------------|--|--|
| Examiner Cit Initials* No | Cite | <u> </u> | S. Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited . | | Pages, Relevar | Columns, Lines Where nt Passages or Relevant | |
| | NO. | Number - Kind Code ² (if known) | | MINI-DD-11 | Document | | Figures Appear | | |
| | | US- 6,203,571 03-20-01 Magnan et al. | | et al. | | | | | |
| | | US- | 6,197,060 | 03-06-01 | Knox | | | | |
| | | US- | 6,168,625 | 01-02-01 | Presco | ott | | | |
| | | US- | 5,935,167 | 08-10-99 | á Weng | en | | | |
| | | US- | 4,728,327 | 03-01-88 | Gersdo | rff | | | |
| | | US- | 4,655,776 | 04-07-87 | Lesins | ki | | | |
| | | US- | 4,130,905 | 12-26-78 | Mercand | lino | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | - | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | | <u>-</u> | |
| | | US- | | | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | - | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | - | | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in

conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standards ST.16, if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a checkmark here if English language Translation is attached.